

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

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SUBJECT: CODEL MANN

REF: STATE 212669 AND STATE 213977

1. CONGRESSMAN MANN ARRIVED MEXICO CITY SUNDAY AFTERNOON, AUGUST 27, AND WAS MET BY DEPUTY NARCOTICS ATTACHE. FOLLOWING VISIT TO LOCAL MUSEUM AND OTHER AREAS, CONGRESSMAN WAS GUEST OF HONOR AT INFORMAL BUFFET SUPPER AT HOME OF NARCOTICS ATTACHE WITH THE CHARGE, DEA SUPERVISORY STAFF, AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT.

2. ON MONDAY AUGUST 28, CONGRESSMAN WAS BRIEFED BY CHARGE, POLITICAL COUNSELOR, NARCOTICS ATTACHE, IMMIGRATION ATTACHE, REVENUE SERVICE ATTACHE, LEGAL ATTACHE, CUSTOMS REPRESENTATIVE AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT. BRIEFING COVERED: PRISONER TRANSFER TREATY AND CURRENT STATUS OF U.S. PRISONERS; EXTRADITION AND INFORMAL EXPULSION PROCEDURES; IRS OPERATIONS; IMMIGRATION PROBLEMS INCLUDING VISAS, UNDOCUMENTED WORKERS AND ALIEN SMUGGLING; CUSTOMS-TO-CUSTOMS COOPERATION; BROAD FUNCTIONS OF LEGAL ATTACHE; NARCOTICS; AND POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS OF ABOVE TOPICS AS WELL AS GENERAL POLITICAL SITUATION.

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3. FOLLOWING ABOVE BRIEFING, CONGRESSMAN DEVOTED AVAILABLE TIME TO NARCOTICS WITH NARCOTICS ATTACHE.

4. AT 1300 CONGRESSMAN, ACCOMPANIED BY CHARGE, NARCOTICS ATTACHE AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT, CALLED ON ATTORNEY GENERAL OSCAR FLORES. CONGRESSMAN EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF CON-

GRESS FOR THE GOOD THINGS HE HAD HEARD ABOUT GOM ERADICATION PROGRAM, EXPRESSING HOPE THAT ENTHUSIASM WOULD BE MAINTAINED. HE OPINED THAT THE MAJOR TASK LEFT WAS NEED TO PUT MAJOR TRAFFICKERS IN JAIL. ATTORNEY GENERAL NOTED THAT TRAFFICKERS WERE WELL LAYERED, BUT THAT ERADICATION PROGRAM HAD COST THEM MONEY AND THAT THE BEST WAY TO ATTACK TRAFFICKERS WAS THROUGH THEIR POCKET BOOKS. WHEN CONGRESSMAN CONCURRED THAT EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY BANKING TRANSACTIONS WERE NEEDED, FLORES REPLIED THAT MANY TRAFFICKERS HAD MOVED TO CASH TRANSACTIONS TO AVOID LEAVING A RECORD.

5. FLORES THEN RAISED THE ISSUE OF RECENT CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN ABOUT THE USE OF PARAQUAT AGAINST MARIJUANA IN MEXICO AND URGED THE CONGRESSMAN TO ASK SENATOR PERCY (SPONSOR OF AMENDMENT ON THIS SUBJECT) TO VISIT MEXICO AND "TELL US WHAT TO USE". HE SAID GOM DID NOT PRODUCE PARAQUAT, HAD NO FINANCIAL INTEREST IN ITS USE, AND WOULD BE HAPPY TO CHANGE IF SOMEONE COULD SUGGEST A MORE APPROPRIATE SUBSTANCE. FLORES ADDED THAT GOM EXPERTS WERE NOT CONVINCED THAT PARAQUAT HAD THE HARMFUL EFFECTS ATTRIBUTED TO IT IN THE UNITED STATES. THE CONGRESSMAN EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT THE CURRENT CONTROVERSY WAS AN OVER-REACTION IN THE UNITED STATES.

6. STILL SPEAKING OF THE ERADICATION PROGRAM, FLORES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SAID THAT THE GOM IS STILL LEARNING BY DOING AND THAT THE NATURE OF THE PROBLEM MEANT THAT THE GOM HAD ALWAYS TO REACT TO THE TRAFFICKERS WHO HAD THE INITIATIVE. THE CONGRESSMAN TOLD FLORES THAT GOM EFFORTS "HAVE BEEN REMARKABLY SUCCESSFUL" IN CONFRONTING NEW PROBLEMS EVERY DAY AND NOTED THE CONTINUING NEED TO EXCHANGE INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION ON A DAILY BASIS TO PREVENT MEXICO FROM DEVELOPING THE TYPE OF HEROIN PROBLEM FACING THE UNITED STATES.

7. THE NARCOTICS ATTACHE BRIEFLY SUMMARIZED THE MEETING OF GENERAL MENDIOLEA (DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE) WITH DEA OFFICERS IN EL PASO. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MENTIONED THAT MENDIOLEA HAD GIVEN HIM A FULL BRIEFING ON HIS RETURN.

8. FLORES CONCLUDED THE MEETING BY NOTING THAT THE GOM IS TRYING TO DO ITS BEST ON NARCOTICS CONTROL AND THAT IT STILL MAINTAINED A LARGE NUMBER OF ROADBLOCKS DESPITE THE ANNOYANCE THEY CAUSE TO TOURISTS AND THE RECENT COMPLAINTS AGAINST THEM BY TOURIST GROUPS IN CALIFORNIA. HE AGAIN STATED HIS REQUEST THAT THE

CONGRESSMAN INVITE SENATOR PERCY TO MEXICO AND EXTENDED
INVITATION TO INCLUDE THE CONGRESSMAN HIMSELF AND ANY
MEMBERS OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS.

9. FOLLOWING THIS MEETING, THE CONGRESSMAN RETURNED
TO THE EMBASSY FOR A WRAP-UP MEETING WITH THE CHARGE
AND WAS THEN TAKEN TO THE AIRPORT. MCANINCH

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